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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Brandis Airfield

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DATE OF CONTENT 1 November 1951

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 3 December 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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COUNTRY: Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT: Brandis Airfield

DATE OF INFORMATION: 1 November 1951

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1. Between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 1 November 1951, a large plane, apparently a transport, was parked in the northern section of Brandis airfield. There was no flying. The cloud base was low, visibility was poor, and there were intermittent showers. The barracks buildings of the field seemed to be only lightly occupied. A sentry wearing blue epaulets was posted at the entrance gate to the barracks installation. Five trucks were observed in the north-eastern section of the landing field.
2. The western section of the field was enlarged by a strip of about 130 meters, which was graded and rolled, but not sown with grass. A strip of some hundred meters had been cleared of brushwood. The southern border of the new expansion strip, which slightly sloped to the west, was about 8 meters from the Polenz-Brandis road. *
3. The two radio installations in the southern section of the field were removed. No similar installations were observed. According to a local resident, all the jet planes previously stationed at the field, slightly more than 40, had been shipped away on trains which had departed only at night. ^{IN ADDITION} ~~the barracks~~ had been vacated by aircraft and ~~the~~ heavy jet planes were allegedly expected to arrive at the field in the near future. The Soviets blocked a strip of the road just east of the field during the shipping activity. A very large plane, allegedly a four-engine craft, carrying soldiers landed at the field a few days before. **

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* Comment. The western expansion of the field which is reported for the first time indicates that the field area extends beyond Polenz-Machern road. According to a sketch furnished by source, but not forwarded, only the graded landing field was enlarged while the surfaced runway was not extended toward the west.

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** Comment. The airfield has not been occupied by jet fighters since mid-October 1951. It is believed that this regiment together with the two other regiments of the fighter division in Grossenhain was transferred to the U.S.S.R. about 20 October 1951. No indications of an intended reoccupation of the field have been observed.

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